

BOROUGH OF CALNE

THE

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and

S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R


for the

Y E A R

E N D I N G

31st. DECEMBER

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C.L. Broomhead, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Chippenham and Malmesbury, and the Rural Districts of Calne & Chippenham and Malmesbury.

(b) SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

T.V. Oliver, M.I. Mun.E., C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

who in addition holds the post of Borough Surveyor.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.
(and Assistant to the Borough Surveyor)

C.C. Dowding, Cert. S.I.E.B.

Meat & Other Foods Cert. R.S.I.

(Appointed 5th. July, 1954)

(c) The two Committees of the Town Council dealing directly with Public Health matters are:-

(i) Public Health, Housing and Town Planning
Committee

and

(ii) Water & Sewerage Committee.

TO:- The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,
Calne Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st. December, 1954.

The health of the community has remained satisfactory during the year. Apart from a small outbreak of Whooping Cough, little infectious disease was notified.

Vital Statistics expressed as rates per 1000 of the population are shown in the following pages when it will be seen that the death rate and Infantile Mortality rate show an increase as compared with the rate for 1953. In small populations rates per 1000 do not give an altogether correct impression; for example, the death rate for 1954 shows an increase of 1.11 per 1000, whereas the numerical increase was only six.

It is very satisfactory that only one case of food poisoning occurred. Calne as a Borough, produces large quantities of meat and meat products both for local and national consumption and for export, and it is gratifying that no outbreaks of food poisoning have been attributed thereto during the year.

The Slaughterhouse Act, 1954 came into operation on the 5th. July following the decontrol of meat and livestock. Comments on the Act and slaughtering facilities generally within the Borough are made in the body of this report.

The care and housing of the aged will constitute an increasing responsibility. It should be made clear that the expectation of life has not been greatly increased for males over 65 years of age, but that more of the population are now attaining the age of 65 than was formally the case. Further detail on this important subject is given in the report.

The attention of the Council is directed to the new legislation which came into effect during 1954 and which necessitated the appointment of an additional Sanitary Inspector who also acts as assistant to the Borough Surveyor.

I am very grateful to Mr. Oliver and the staff of the Council for their help during the year and assistance in compiling this report.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

C.L. BROMHEAD.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) 1276
 Population 6090
 Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954 according
 to the Rate Book) 1886
 Rateable Value (1st.Apr.54) £38,769
 Sum represented by Penny Rate £153.17.9.

VITAL STATISTICSLIVE BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	54	59	113
Illegitimate	1	1	2
Total Live Births	55	60	115

Birth Rate for the Borough 18.8 per 1000
 of the popula-
 tion.
 Comparative Rate for England & Wales 15.2 per 1000
 total populat-
 ion.

The Birth Rate shows an increase over the rate for
 1953 when it was 15.1 per 1000 of the population.

STILL BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total Still Births	-	2	2

Rate per 1000 total live & still births. 19.2

Comparative Rate per 1000 total live & still births
 for England and Wales 24.0

DEATHS

	<u>Male</u> 31	<u>Female</u> 36	<u>Total</u> 67
Death Rate for the Borough			11.01 per 1000 of the population.
Comparative Rate for England & Wales			11.3 per 1000 of the population.

The Death Rate for the Borough is higher this year as compared with 1953 when the rate was 9.9 per 1000 of the population.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parastic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm stomach	2	1	3
" " lung, bronchus	2	-	2
" " Breast	-	2	2
" " Uterus	-	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	1	3
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	4	7
Coronary disease angina	9	5	14
Hypertension with heart disease	-	3	3
Other heart disease	5	12	17
Other circulatory disease	1	2	3
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Other diseases of respiratory sys.	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	2	-	2
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis & nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	2	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-
Suicide	1	-	1
All Other Accidents	-	-	-
Homicide & operations of war	-	-	-
Total all causes.	31	36	67

It should be noted that Coronary Disease and Other Heart Disease shows a numerical increase as compared with the year 1953. Coronary disease appears to affect the male population to a greater extent than the female and continues to figure frequently as a cause of death. Whilst Cancer still figures prominently, the total number of deaths from this disease during the year did not show an increase as compared with the year 1953.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

Table "A"

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:	1	3	4

Infant Mortality Rates:-

Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age per
1000 live births34.7

Comparative rate for England & Wales
per 1000 related live births.25.5

Table "B"

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:-

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	-	3	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:-	-	3	3

The figures quoted in Table "B" have already been included in Table "A" above.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 34.7 per 1000 live births shows an increase as compared with the rate of 10.9 for the year 1953. However, the total number of deaths amongst children of one year of age during the year is too small to permit of a reliable comparative rate.

It will be noticed that three out of the total of four of infant deaths occurred during the first month of life.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the Infectious Diseases notified during 1954 as compared with the years 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953.

DISEASE	1949		1950		1951		1952		1953		1954	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	5	5	1	1	11	11	1	1	4	4	2	2
Whooping Cough	6	6	24	24	39	39	52	52	52	52	39	39
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	105	105	-	-	46	46	2	2	199	199	3	3
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	2	2	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	119	119	28	28	98	98	61	61	260	260	45	45

"a" = Numbers originally notified

"b" = Final numbers after correction.

Apart from a small number of cases of Whooping Cough, there was little Infectious Disease during the year. It is hoped that in the future immunisation against Whooping Cough will be a matter of County Council policy.

It is gratifying that no notifications of Infantile Paralysis were received during the year.

Distribution according to Age
Notifications received during 1954 - Corrected Figures.

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	Over 65	Age Unknown	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	1	23	15	1	1	1	1	1	39
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTALS:-	1	25	17	1	1	1	1	1	45

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table shows new cases of Tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the County Chest Physician during 1954 together with comparative figures for the years 1948 to 1953.

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1948	4	-	4
1949	-	-	-
1950	2	-	2
1951	4	-	4
1952	4	-	4
1953	4	-	4
1954	2	1	3

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY
DURING 1954 ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX.

<u>AGE PERIODS</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>RESP</u>		<u>NON-RESP</u>		<u>RESP.</u>		<u>NON-RESP</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
15								
25								
35								
45	1							
55	1		1					
65 upwards								
TOTALS:-	2		1	-	-	-	-	-

Notified cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Register at the end of 1954 is as follows:-

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	14	11	25
Non-Pulmonary	3	2	5
Total:-	17	13	30

It is gratifying that the incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis shows some decrease and also that no deaths from this disease occurred during the year

LEGISLATION

During 1954 the following were issued by the various Ministries of the Central Government. The most important were the Slaughterhouse, Act 1954 and the Ministry of Housing & Local Government Circular concerning Slum Clearance

- | | |
|--|---|
| The Puerperal Pyrexia (Amendment) Regulations, 1954. | - These regulations made by the Minister of Health came into operation on the 1st. March, 1955 and amend the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1951 by prescribing a new form of certificate for the notification by a medical practitioner of cases of puerperal pyrexia. The new form requires the cause of the disease, if known, to be stated. |
| Ministry of Health Circular 8/54 (Prevention of Tuberculosis) | - This circular directed the issue of a memorandum to the Medical Officer of Health and Chest Physicians reviewing the value of existing measures to bring tuberculosis under control. |
| Slaughterhouse Act, 1954. | - This Act came into force on the 5th. July, 1954. Local Authorities are now responsible for the time being for ensuring that adequate slaughtering facilities are available and for the grant of and renewal of licences in respect thereof etc. |
| Food & Drugs Amendment Act, 1954 | - Apart from Sec. 28 which makes certain provisions governing the restricting of private slaughterhouses, the remainder of the Act will not come into force until the early part of 1955. |
| The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) (No.2) Regulations, 1954. | These regulations came into force on the 1st. December, 1954 and are designed to secure humane conditions and practices in connection with the slaughter of animals at slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards. |
| Ministry of Food Circular MF 4/54 | Concerns slaughtering facilities to be made by Local Authorities on the decontrol of meat and livestock. |

LEGISLATION (CONTINUED)

- Ministry of Food Circular MF 5/54 - Concerns the licensing and provision of Slaughterhouses.
- Ministry of Food Circular MF 10/54 Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1952 - Slaughtering and Meat Inspection.
- Repairs & Housing/Rents Act, 1954 - This Act came into force on the 30th. August. Inter alia the Council is required to submit to the Minister of Housing & Local Government within the next 12 months its proposals for dealing with houses unfit for human habitation and liable to demolition.
- Ministry of Housing & Local Government Circular 75/54 - Slum Clearance Procedure.
- Ministry of Housing & Local Government Circular 8/54 - Rivers(Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1954.

The National Assistance Act, 1948

Sec. 47 Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No statutory action was taken during the year under the provisions of this Act.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following children received primary immunisations during 1954.

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1-4</u>	<u>Ages 5-14</u>
57	49	8

TOTAL: 114

Total immunised child population as at 31.XII.54

<u>Ages 0-4</u>	<u>Ages 5-14</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
306	894	1,200

VACCINATION

The following children were vaccinated during 1954:-

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1-4</u>	<u>Ages 5-15</u>
60	5	9

TOTAL:- 74

NOTE:- Total live births during 1954 was 115

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

On the 23rd. December, 1953 an Interdepartmental Committee on Slaughterhouses presented a report to the Minister of Food on the arrangements for slaughtering on the decontrol of meat and livestock. The recommendations of the Committee were accepted and the Council was faced, in common with other Local Authorities, with the problem of ensuring that sufficient slaughtering accommodation was accessible to traders to meet the needs of the Borough by July, 1954.

The privately owned slaughterhouses in the Borough had not been in use as such for many years and were consequently unfit for use. Since little time was available before decontrol, meetings with the local traders were held when the hygienic requirements of the Council were discussed. In order that the Public Health Committee would the more readily appreciate the problem, a report was submitted; the following are extracts:-

"The Food & Drugs Act, 1938 does not lay down any code of conditions of hygiene and public health which should apply to slaughterhouses, but earlier legislation enables Local Authorities to make byelaws for securing that slaughterhouses are jept in a sanitary condition. The Town Council made Byelaws in the year 1888".

"Para 10 of the Interdepartmental Committee's Report on Slaughterhouses states that "in considering applications for grant or renewal of licences, a Local Authority would have regard to its own standard of hygiene and public health requirements". Para 57 of the Report states that under the present law, the main point that Local Authorities must have in mind in considering applications for the grant or renewal of licences is that of public health".

"Ministry of Food Circular MF 4/54 dated 24 Feb 54 states that Local Authorities shall be responsible for ensuring that sufficient slaughtering accommodation is accessible to traders to meet the needs of each district, and requests Local Authorities to start consultations with the organisations representing farmers and meat traders in their districts to ascertain what slaughtering facilities will be required on decontrol".

"Ministry of Food Circular 5/54 dated 24 Mar 54 para 5 states that "Local Authorities should have regard to the requirements of Section 13 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, and the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act to prevent cruelty". The Slaughterhouses Bill at present before Parliament provides that before granting or renewing a licence a Local Authority shall arrange for an Officer to inspect and report upon the condition of the premises for which a licence is sought".

"Para 8 of Ministry of Food Circular MF 5/54 dated 24 Mar 54 relates to closure of private slaughterhouses where public facilities are available. When dealing with applications for the grant or renewal of licences for private slaughterhouses, a Local Authority should consider whether, having regard to the accessibility and capacity of public slaughtering accommodation either in its own district, or in the district of a neighbouring authority, the privately owned premises are required. Powers already exist in Section 61 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938 enabling a Local Authority which has provided a public slaughterhouse to close some or all of the private slaughterhouses in its district".

"The Slaughterhouse Bill provides for this power to be exercised by a Local Authority which has not provided a public slaughterhouse but which is of the opinion that there

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES AND MEAT INSPECTION (CONTD)

"is adequate alternative public slaughtering accommodation in a neighbouring district to meet the requirements of the trade in its own district".

"The Slaughterhouse Bill provides that no licence may be granted without the consent of the Ministry of Food for premises not previously licensed as a slaughterhouse".

"The Government has reaffirmed the policy of moderate concentration of slaughterhouses as a long term policy".

"Memo 3/Meat dated 4 Dec 52 Part 1(2) requires that "animals to be slaughtered for emergency reasons should be kept apart from other animals and inspected with particular care". Part III requires ante mortem inspection which will depend upon the lairage facilities available. This enables the inspector to arrange for the segregation of animals showing symptoms of disease and their separate slaughter".

A copy of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association Report on the licensing of slaughterhouses and minimum standards required was also attached for information.

It was agreed eventually that a completely new Slaughterhouse should be constructed by one of the local traders to meet the requirements of the Council and to serve the needs of the district as a whole. This was eventually carried out and the premises were practically complete by decontrol. Details of the consequent greatly increased meat inspection within the Borough will be found in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Meat Inspection at Messrs. C. & T. Harris (Calne) Ltd. is carried out by a qualified Veterinary Inspector who reports on the number of diseased organs found at each kill. Diseased conditions found are divided into two groups:-

1. Tuberculosis.
2. All diseased conditions other than tuberculosis.

The percentage of animals detained for examination was:- 12.14 per cent of which 5.73 per cent were affected with Tuberculosis, and 6.41 per cent with some diseased condition other than Tuberculosis.

THE AGEING POPULATION

There is no satisfactory definition of old age. The reduction of mental and physical capacity associated with old age begins much earlier than the artificial ages of retirement.

It has been estimated that one in seven of the population are of pensionable age, and a census in 1951 showed that one house in fifteen consists of one person aged 60 years or more. This increase in the number of aged in our midst is due to economic and social progress and great advances in the field of Public Health and curative medicine.

Although there has been some increase in the expectation of life, this is not the principle cause of the increase; more people are now reaching old age, an infrequent event in the past.

There is no doubt that the care of the aged constitutes a social and economic problem which will make increasing demands on the younger and producing members of the community in the future. It is desirable to encourage and prolong the mental and physical activities of the elderly, and some form of productive employment, however simple, is of great assistance to this end. It is of little value to the individual if having attained a healthy old age, he finds himself unwanted, neglected and divorced from the community.

The parents of young families are frequently unable to include their parents in the family unit owing to housing difficulties. My own experience is that young couples are better living alone. I frequently hear of the domestic problems which arise when attempts are made to live with the respective father or mother-in-law. It is preferable that the elderly should live in their own homes and every attempt should be made to further this objective. However attractive Welfare Accommodation may be, or however comfortable and efficient our hospital service, in my opinion, they do not replace the very natural desire of all of us to remain under our own roof.

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SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
REPORT

Rainfall

The rainfall is recorded at the Sewage Disposal Works the reading being taken at 9.0 a.m. every day. From this information the following table has been compiled:-

MONTH	TOTAL RAINFALL INCHES	GREATEST FALL in 24 HOURS	NO. OF DAYS WITH .01 OR MORE RECORDED.
January	1.71	.5(25th.)	14
February	2.84	.59(17th)	16
March	2.73	.42(6th.)	15
April	.37	.08(17th.)	4
May	2.25	.54(1st. & 2nd)	13
June	4.12	.01(12th)	17
July	2.31	.80(25th)	15
August	3.64	.50(8th)	19
September	3.31	.50(23rd)	25
October	2.90	.39(31st)	19
November	5.64	.60(26th)	20
December.	2.33	.84(8th)	15
	<u>34.15</u>		<u>192</u>

These figures compare with 24.66 total rainfall recorded last year the driest year since the gauge was installed in 1928.

The average rainfall for the previous 6 years was 33.50 inches.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.
Wet days	7	13	13	4	10	12	12	15	21	16
Rain days	7	3	2	0	3	5	3	4	4	3
Dry days.	17	12	16	26	18	13	16	12	5	12

	Nov.	Dec.
Wet days	19	11
Rain days	1	4
Dry days.	10	16

No absolute drought was recorded.

November was the wettest month, April was the driest, compared with September and January respectively in the previous year.

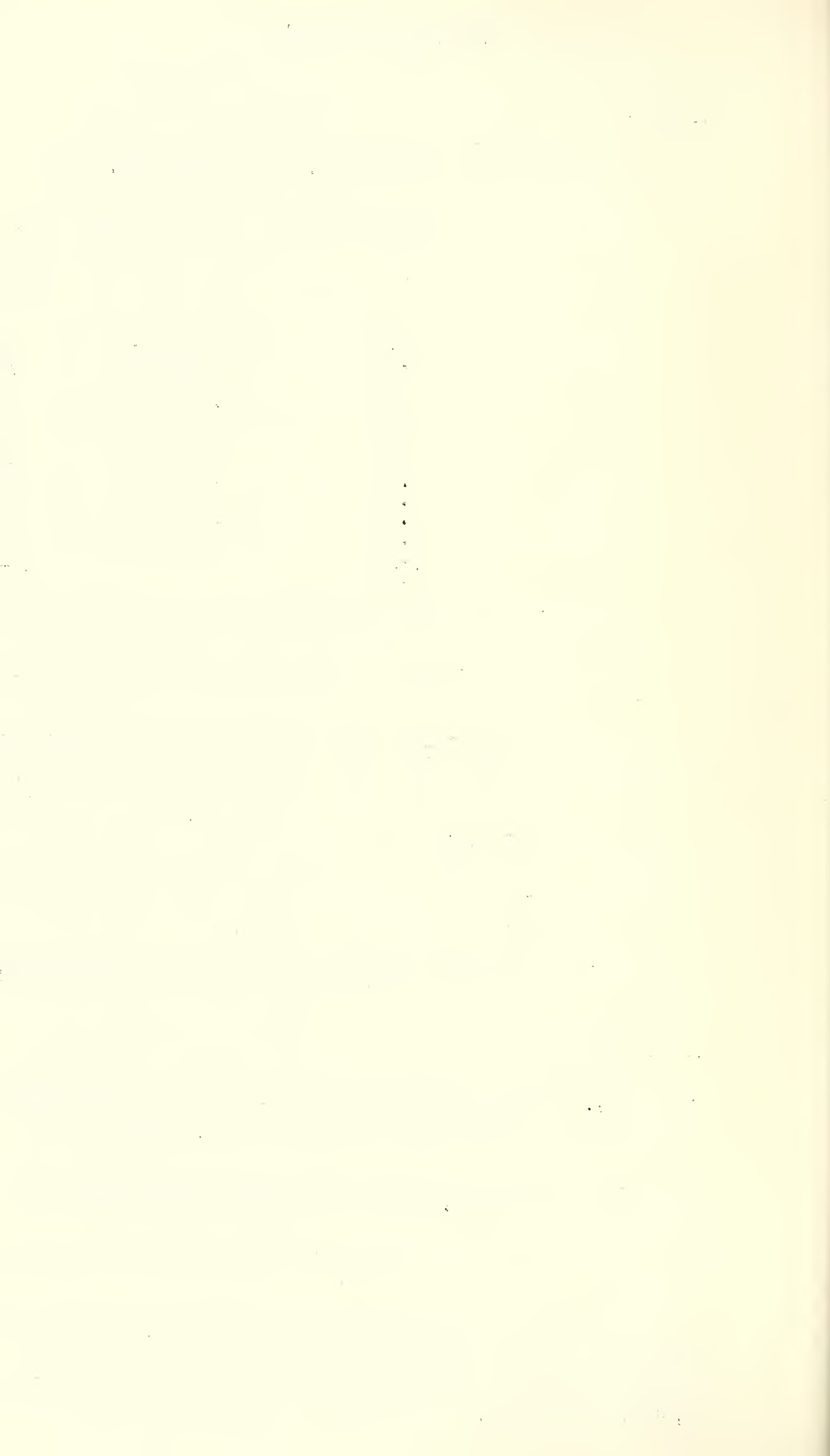
WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Undertaking has been owned by the Town Council since 1947. The area served by the Calne Water Orders 1882 to 1938 includes the Municipal Borough and the Parish of Calne Without in the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham.

The supply is obtained from the Lower Greensand Springs at Calstone Wellington, about three miles to the South-East of the town in the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham.

The water is of good quality and non-plumbo solvent. It is chlorinated at the source.

The water is brought to the Borough by a 9" main, (which was in the course of construction when the Undertaking was taken over), thence it is distributed by rising and branch mains through the town. These vary in size from 2 to 6 inches. The total length of the distribution mains is estimated to be 20,389 lineal yards. Of this figure 46% are estimated to be



WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

70 years old and over, 6.4% between 60 and 70 years, 1.6% between 50 and 60 years, 8.9% between 40 and 50 years, 1.6% between 30 and 40 years, 14% between 20 and 30 years and 21% comparatively modern. In recent years a new 3" ring main has been added to serve the Council's new housing estate at Bryan's Close whilst an extension of the 3" main at Horsebrook was carried out to serve a privately developed estate.

The existing oil-driven pumps were installed in 1929 to augment the supply from the rams and in 1932 the High Level Reservoir was enlarged to 32,000 gallons. In order to keep abreast with the Town's future development it will be necessary to electrify the Pumping Station and increase the amount of storage. It is also suggested that the 2" mains be replaced with mains of larger capacity, chiefly for fire fighting purposes.

The demand has grown considerably since the original Calne Water Order was obtained in 1882. In 1920 a new High Level Reservoir was built and the abstraction figure at that time was 700,000 gallons per week. In 1938 a provisional order was obtained whereby the abstraction rate was increased to 1,050,000 gallons per week. In October, 1954, the Council's Consulting Engineers presented a report on the present yield of the springs and upon the estimated needs of the Borough. Acting upon this information it was resolved to recommend the Council's Parliamentary Agents be instructed to proceed with the application of a new water order providing an abstraction of 3,000,000 gallons per week. Up to the date of this report the matter has not been finalised.

The present consumption figure is 45 gallons per head of the population, estimated to be made up as follows:-

Domestic 27, Trade 6, Waste 12.

In order to preclude any unnecessary waste the Town has been systematically covered by the Council's waste water inspector. Major repairs were carried out at the following points:-

2" main at The Pippin, broken mains in Curzon Street Oxford Road and London Road.

Some difficulty was experienced in maintaining the supply to the Mile Elm area mainly due to lack of pressure from the works. This was overcome by adjusting the pumps and hydraulic rams.

A new pressure switch was fitted to the Silver Street Booster to cure radio interference.

Plastic pipes were introduced into the Borough for normal cold water services and electric lighting was installed at the Pumping Station.

During the year the administration of the Undertaking was brought under the purview of the Borough Surveyor's Department.

The number of new connections made during the year was 15. New Meters installed - 4.

Samples of Chlorinated water from the service mains -18

Samples taken at the Intake - Lower Spring 8
Main Spring 8
Bank Spring 7

These samples occasionally showed some pollution with the coli aerogenes group. Only on three occasions. was there a very slight faecal pollution.



WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)

The Council's 3" main was extended under the provisions of section 37 of the Water Act, 1945, to provide for the development of the Horsebrook Park Estate. It was also agreed to supply water to feed the swimming bath at the St. Mary's School, capacity 70,000 gallons.

The last chemical report on a sample of the town supply is as follows:-

Appearance: clear, colourless.

Reaction : pH 7.0.

	<u>Parts per million.</u>
Free Carbon Dioxide	46
Free & Saline Ammonia	less than 0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.036
Chlorine (as chlorides)	13
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	21
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours)	0.23
Nitrite	Absent
Nitrogen in Nitrates	2.1
Total Solids	400
Loss on Ignition	25
Appearance on ignition	slight charring
Hardness: Temporary	290
Permanent	<u>33</u>
	323
Lead and copper	absent

9th. June, 1954.

There are no street standpipes. The total number of houses in the Borough still relying on well water for domestic supply is 12 or 0.6 per centum of all the inhabited houses in the district. Three of these houses are beyond the existing water mains and of the others the wells have been subjected to analyses and have, in general, been passed fit for potable purposes.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

General Practically the whole of the developed portion of the Borough is now sewered, although owing to difficulty of falls or isolation there will always be a few houses which have to rely upon septic tanks or earth closets.

The number of houses not connected to the main drainage system at the end of 1954 was 94 or 5% of all the inhabited houses. About one half of this number are outside the drainage area.

The Town Council, always alive to keeping abreast with the expansion of the Borough, has in hand, the construction of a new outfall sewer, (replacing the existing outfall sewer, which is now more than 70 years old), at an estimated cost of £31,300; this will pick up the existing sewerage system in the centre of the town connecting with the Sewage Disposal Works at Conigre.

The Disposal Works themselves are situated in the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham, about 1½ miles to the North-west of the town. They were modernised in 1928 at a cost of approximately £19,000. The rapid growth of the town has now outstripped the capacity of these works and consideration has already been given to this problem which is causing some concern and embarrassment to the Town Council. The Council



SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (CONTD)

have agreed to apply for sanction to borrow £71,500 for the enlargement and modernisation of the Works. An enquiry was held on the 17th. August, 1954 by Col. S.K. Gilbert, B.Sc. M.I.C.E., an inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The result of the enquiry at the time of reporting has not been made known.

In considering the design of the works the Council have also agreed, in principle, to the proposal to receive and treat the sewage from the villages of Studley and Derry Hill in the Rural District, provided the scheme will not seriously affect the capital cost of the works and subject to the Rural District Council laying their own mains and paying a yearly contribution to cover the cost. The District Council have accepted these terms.

A claim for £278, plus £57.12.0 analysts fees was made on the Council by the Anglers' Association for the alleged pollution of the River Marden by the Sewage Works effluent. The Council's Insurers accepted responsibility in respect of this isolated incident, but refuted liability for any future pollution which may arise.

Some difference of opinion was expressed between the Council and its Insurers. The claim was not settled and an action in the High Court was entered by the Anglers' Association. By the end of the year the action had not been determined.

Trade Effluent. - In considering the proposals for the new sewage disposal works the Minister called for a new Trade Effluent agreement between Messrs. C. & T. Harris(Calne) Ltd., and the Council. Heads for the agreement were agreed as a basis for negotiation, but up to the end of the year the agreement had not been finalised.

During the year the Air Ministry put forward proposals for laying a private sewer between Stockley Lane and Quemerford. The Council agreed to pay the difference in cost between the 6" and 9" pipes and to resite the sewer to cater for future development in the Stockley Lane area. This length is now a Public Sewer and will be maintained by the Council.

Final Effluent from the Works. - Of the last sample of final effluent taken during the year (13th. December) the Analyst reports as follows:-

Appearance: Very pale brown liquid, brown sediment. No smell.

Reaction : pH 7.3

Parts per million.

Free and saline ammonia	0.6
Albuminoid Ammonia	1.2
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	82
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	135
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours)	6.3
Nitrite	slight reaction
Nitrogen in Nitrite & Nitrate	8.7
Dissolved solids	730
Suspended Solids	28
Total	758

Dissolved Oxygen absorbed after 5 days' incubation (B.O.D.)

8.4

'Impurity' figure 9

This shews an overall purification of 82.86%

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

During the year a new Bedford 12 cubic yard side loading refuse vehicle was brought into service. This replaced the 7 cubic yard vehicle which proved too small to cope with the added work resulting from the town's expansion and the development of the Council's new Housing Estates.

All refuse is collected weekly by direct labour. The service has been maintained satisfactorily and without a single complaint throughout the year.

The refuse tip is at Calne Low about 1 mile to the East of the town in worked out sandpits owned by Messrs. Bradley & Sons. The tip is sprayed with dressing during the summer months to preclude fly nuisance and the breeding of crickets. It is regularly inspected and baited or gassed to prevent rat infestation.

SALVAGE

Paper etc.

A weekly collection of salvage has been in operation since June, 1940. The amount collected to date is 2,002 tons valued at £7,203. 8.7, excluding Government Grants.

The actual tonnage for 1954 was 101 tons 3 cwts. valued at £597. 19.10. This shows an increase over last year's figures, due to the increased market price for waste paper. The figure represents a rate of 3.8d.

Kitchen Waste

There are 70 communal bins placed at strategic points throughout the district for the collection of kitchen waste which is sold in its raw state to National By-Products Ltd. and dry rendered in a solvent extraction plant at Messrs. C. & T. Harris By Products factory in the Borough. The kitchen waste is converted into a black pudding and retailed by Messrs. Harris to local farmers.

This tonnage for the twelve months under review was 64 tons 9½ cwts., bringing in a revenue of £249.15.4. which is included in the total figure mentioned above.

The communal bins are brought in periodically and steam sterilised at the above plant by the kind co-operation of Messrs. C. & T. Harris (Calne) Ltd.

HOUSING.

The following capital works were commenced during the year:

34 traditional houses at Bryans Close to complete this estate of 180 houses;

site works at Broken Cross.

The Roads and Sewers Contract for a new estate at Lickhill was presented to the Minister of Housing and Local Government but had not been finalised at the end of the year.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

A review of the housing circumstances in the District was commenced. No applications for certificates of disrepair were received.

Housing Act, 1949.

Six improvement grants were made under the provisions of the above Act and valued at £1013.

Of the five houses requisitioned under the Defence Regulations four have now been derequisitioned leaving one

HOUSING ACT, 1949 (Continued)

dwelling, which is divided into three flats, still requisitioned.

Sale of Council Houses.

During the year nine Council Houses have been sold.

New Properties.

Twelve new private enterprise houses were completed, making 87 houses since 1945.

Overcrowding

Several cases of overcrowding were dealt with by the voluntary interchanging of council house tenancies, arranged through the Housing Officer with the consent and encouragement of the Local Authority.

The number of applications for Council houses at the end of 1954 was 197.

Housing Act, 1936

Fourteen informal notices were served under the Housing Act, It was not necessary to take any statutory action.

Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 Article 31.

- (1) The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation. 5
- (2) The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 12
- (3) The number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders NIL
- (4) The number of notices served requiring the execution of works. NIL
- (5) The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices NIL
- (6) The number of demolition or closing orders made. NIL
- (7) The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (2) of section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930 or Section 11(3) Housing Act, 1936. NIL
- (8) The number of houses demolished 3

RODENT CONTROL: PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

For this purpose the council employ a part-time operative. As usual the systematic treatment of sewers, refuse tip and other municipally owned property was carried out.

A few major and minor infestations were found and all were dealt with. Gassing has been employed with great success in connection with infestations on the refuse tip and also the River banks, whilst all other infestations were treated by warfarin or prebaiting and poisoning.

Several large retail food stores as well as the Bacon Factory have standing contracts with commercial firms, subject to the over-riding supervision of the rodent operator

RODENT CONTROL- PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949 (Contd)

and close co-operation is maintained between all parties concerned.

The following is a summary of the year's work:-

Number of properties found to be infested:-

Major	Minor	1 serious infestation by mice was reported.
36	71	

Of these 23 were notified by the occupiers.

The number of dwelling houses inspected.	528
ditto business premises "	88
ditto agricultural "	9
ditto Local Authority "	5

The total number of re-visits other than initial inspections was 946.

The type of property in the district is as follows:-

Local Authority	5
Dwelling Houses	1891
Agricultural	11
Business and Industrial	209
	<u>2116</u>

RAG FLOCK

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951 came into operation on 1st. November, 1951

This Act requires Local Authorities to inspect such premises from time to time and to sample the filling materials found thereon.

Only one firm is registered in the district.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

This Act came into operation on the 1st. April, 1952 and requires the licensing of Pet Shops.

One such shop is licensed in the district.

LETHAL CHAMBER.

The lethal chamber is now only being used in the case of emergency. The R.S.P.C.A. having been informed that the voltage used for operating the equipment introduces a time lag during which the animals are not completely insensible to pain.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Two slaughterhouses are now operating within the Borough. One serves the factory of Messrs. C. & T. Harris (Calne) Ltd. at which the meat inspection service is carried out by a part-time Veterinary Inspector who reports regularly to the Medical Officer of Health. The other slaughterhouse serves the local butchers and the butchers of several adjoining areas, as well as supplying meat for the Smithfield Meat Market, London. The meat inspection at this establishment is carried out by a qualified Meat Inspector who holds the examination in the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods of the Royal Sanitary Institute. The number of animals slaughtered at this latter establishment between 5th. July and the close of the year as returned under the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947, was as follows: -

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. (CONTD)

Steers.	115
Heifers	138
Cows & Bulls	20
Calves	4865
Sheep and Lambs(excluding rams and ewes.)	461
Pigs, excluding sows and boars	603
Sows and boars	34.
Rams Ewes.	6.

The amount of meat condemned during the period under review, i.e. from 5th. July (when slaughtering re-commenced) to the end of the year was:-

Bovine

Whole carcasses.	NIL
part carcasses	4
livers	19
part livers	6
skirts	2
spleens.	6
heads	10
lungs	10

Calves.

Whole carcasses.	15
plucks	10
livers	6
hearts	1
heads	3
kidneys.	2

Pigs

Whole carcasses.	5
part carcasses.	5
Heads	9
Lungs	18
Part lungs	42
Livers	7
Stomachs	2
Hearts	2

Sheep

Whole carcasses	6
Lungs.	14
Livers.	5

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOOD (CONTD)

The following foodstuffs (other than meat) were also condemned:-

28 lbs of dried fruit	116 tins of vegetables
48 tins of meat	8 tins of fish
18 tins of milk	5 tins of soup
1 tin of cream	12 tins of miscellaneous items
228 tins of fruit,	4 jars of preserves.
	10 lbs of cheese.

There are two holders of game licences.

FISH

There are three retailers of fresh fish and three fried fish establishments in the district. Most of the fresh fish is delivered to the district in refrigerated vans and largely owing to this no fish has been condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

MILK

The relevant provisions of the following enactments are enforced by the Council:-

1. Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949
2. The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949
3. The Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949
4. Food & Drugs (Milk Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950.

Licences issued to Distributors:-

1. To use the special designation Tuberculin Tested.	4
2. To use the special designation Pasteurised.	2
3. Supplementary licence to use the special designation T.T.	3
4. Supplementary licence to use the special designation Pasteurised.	1
5. To use the special designation T.T. Pasteurised.	1

Samples

Milk from all the distributors is sampled and passed on to the Public Health Laboratory for testing. Each sample from designated milks is subjected to the statutory tests as prescribed in the regulations. In addition, samples of raw milks are submitted for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli.

The number of samples taken during the year was

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Statutory Test	33	-
Biological examination	2	-
Bottles tested for cleansing	7	-

Milk is supplied daily, during term, to the Secondary Modern, Secondary Grammar, C.of E. Junior, Guthrie Infant and Holy Trinity C of E Junior Schools in the town. St. Mary's is also supplied.

The Wiltshire County Council is the Food & Drugs Authority for the area and are responsible for licensing the one Pasteurisation Plant within the Borough.

ICE CREAM

17 premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

No premises are used for the manufacture of ice-cream by cold or hot mix. All ice-cream sold is pre-wrapped.

CLASSIFICATION OF FOOD PREMISES IN TRADES.

The various businesses within the Borough are as follows:-

Bakers	3
Confectioners	4
Cafes.	3
Butchers	7
Pork Butcher and Preserved Foods.	1
Fishmongers	3
Fried Fish Shops.	3
Grocers	11
Greengrocers	4

40

The total number of premises registered under Sec. 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, is 20. There are three Dairies registered within the Borough.

The number of inspections of registered food premises and licensed slaughterhouses during the year was 344.

All condemned food, other than raw meat is either destroyed by incineration or in some cases returned to the suppliers as evidence of unfitness.

No bulk stores of food exist in the district.

SHOPS

No statutory action has been necessary under the Shops Act, 1950, shops being inspected from time to time.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 - 1938

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 which are required to be furnished by Section 128 (3) of that Act, with respect to the matters under Parts I and VIII which are administered by the District Council

PREMISES	NO, ON REGISTER	INSPECT-IONS	WRITTEN NOTICES.	PROSECUT-IONS.
1. Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by LA.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2. Factories not included in 1 in which sec. 7 is enforced by LA	33	26	5	-
3. Other premises in which Sec 7 is enforced by LA (excluding Out-Workers premises)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL:	33	26	5	-

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1938 (CONTD)

2. Cases in which defects were found.

	<u>FOUND</u>	<u>REMEDIED BY LA</u>	<u>PROSECUTIONS</u>
Want of cleanliness	3	3	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-
Unreasonable temp.	-	-	-
inadequate vent.	-	-	-
ineffective drainage	-	-	-
of floors.	-	-	-
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>			
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or			
defective	1	1	-
(c) Not separate for			
sexes.	-	-	-

One Outworker is registered under Section 110.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

The following is a summary of the year's work under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officer's (Outside London) Regulations, 1935:-

Dwelling houses inspected.	157
Re-inspections and visits	304
Inspections for Housing Records	157
Registered and Licensed premises inspected	61
Miscellaneous sanitary duties involving visits	98
Complaints received and inspected	28

Samples taken

Number of samples of final effluent taken at the	
Sewage Disposal Works	10
Number of samples of tank effluent taken at the	
Sewage Disposal Works	NIL
Number of samples of raw spring water for	
Bacteriological examination.	23
Number of samples of chlorinated water for	
Bacteriological examination	18

Number of new houses connected to main drainage	
system	12
Number of new houses connected to main water supply	12
Number of existing houses connected to main drainage	
system	NIL
New lengths of drain constructed and tested.	53
Drains obstructions	
W.C. obstructions cleared).	36
New W.C.s constructed to existing houses	6
Houses disinfected	8
Houses re-decorated internally	4
Floors repaired or renewed	19
Roofs repaired or renewed.	44
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	21
External walls repaired	16
Walls replastered	24
Ceilings repaired or replastered	22
Rainwater pipes and gutters cleared, repaired or	
renewed	47
W.C. Cisterns repaired or renewed	127
Waste pipes cleared, repaired or renewed	22
W.C. pans renewed or repaired	24
New W.Cs installed to existing houses	7
Minor repairs and miscellaneous	929

